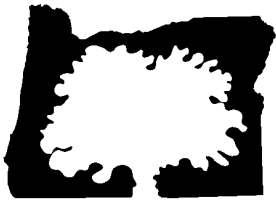


OREGON



HERITAGE
TREE
PROGRAM

TREE TEAM

Oregon Heritage Tree Program Newsletter

Spring 2005

DORRIS RANCH HAZELNUT ORCHARDS TO HOST ANNUAL EVENT

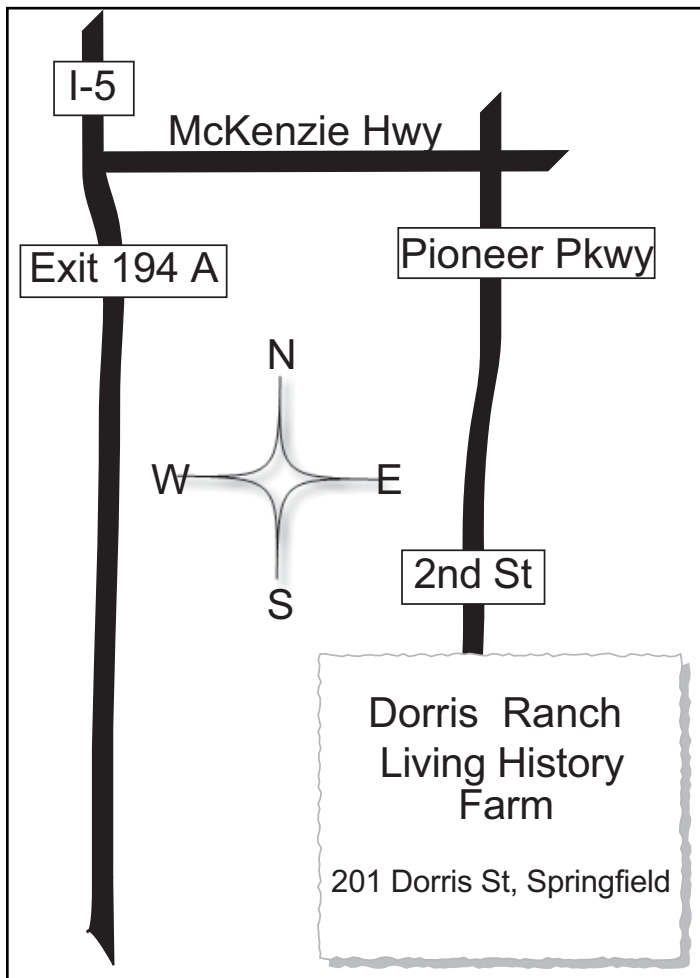
The ninth annual statewide Oregon Heritage Tree Dedication Ceremony will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held at the Dorris Ranch Living History Filbert Farm located at South Second and Dorris Streets in Springfield, Oregon.



Featured speaker at the event will be Jeff Olsen, Horticulturist for Oregon State University Extension Service, who has researched the early history of the Oregon hazelnut industry. Arne Nyberg, Chairman of the Oregon Heritage Tree Committee will announce the newest additions to the state program. In addition to the Dorris Ranch, the class of 2005 includes the Mitchell Monument Shrapnel Tree near Bly, the Hoover-Minthorn Pear in Newberg, and the Peg Tree in Lake Oswego.

Cheryl Gribskov, Director of the Oregon Travel Information Council will be the Master of Ceremonies and will be joined by Blake Hastings, Chairman and Bob Keefer, Superintendent, both of the Willamalane Park and Recreation District.

To reach Dorris Ranch from I-5, take exit 194A to Springfield and follow the City Center signs onto Pioneer Parkway. Go south on Pioneer Parkway past downtown and across Main Street as Pioneer Parkway becomes South 2nd Street. Continue south over the hill and straight ahead at the intersection with Dorris Street into the entrance of the park.



DORRIS RANCH HAZELNUT ORCHARDS

The first commercial-sized planting of hazelnuts in Oregon occurred here when George Dorris planted a five-acre orchard in 1905. In addition to growing trees for nut production, Dorris started a hazelnut nursery on the property that operated for 40 years and produced an average of 70,000 trees per year. It is estimated that more than half of the trees in Oregon's hazelnut industry originated from Dorris Ranch nursery stock.

There are thirteen different orchards on the Dorris Ranch and five of them were planted before



George Dorris

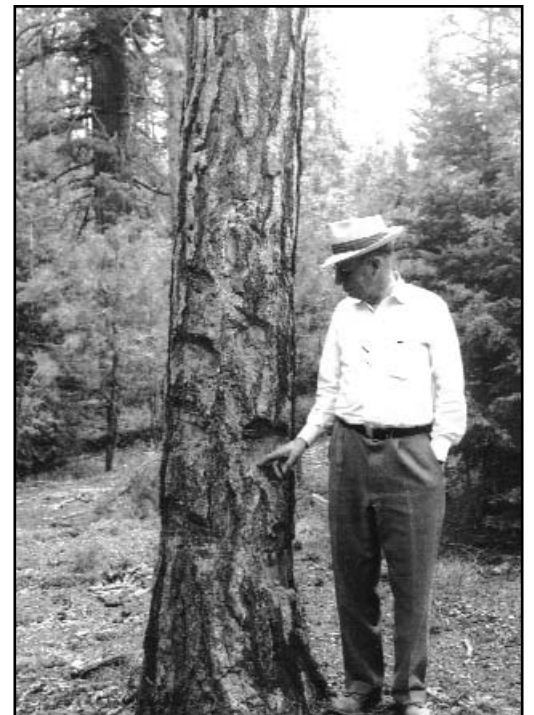
1927. Dorris sold nuts directly to an innovative new company called Meier and Frank, who in turn sold directly to consumers in ten-pound bags.

The Dorris Ranch became part of Willamalane Park and Recreation District in 1972 and is operated today as a living history farm that still produces 50 tons of filberts each year. The Dorris Ranch is host to a variety of plants, flowers and birds, and is open to the public weekdays and weekends from 6:00 a.m. to dusk for self-guided tours through its 250-acre historic site and natural area.

MITCHELL MONUMENT SHRAPNEL TREE

On Saturday, May 5, 1945, Reverend Archie Mitchell and his pregnant wife, Elsie, loaded their car with a picnic lunch and fishing gear. Traveling with them were five children from Mitchell's Sunday school class at the Christian and Missionary Church in Bly. The group traveled northeast to the vicinity of Leonard Creek on the lower slopes of Gearhart Mountain. Elsie and the youngsters went off to explore the creek while Archie parked their car. As Reverend Mitchell stepped from his car an explosion shattered the quiet morning. A Japanese balloon bomb had exploded killing Elsie and the five children - the only civilian casualties of World War II on the continental United States as a result of enemy action.

In 1950, the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, which owned the site of the attack, dedicated a monument constructed of native stone and displaying a bronze plaque bearing the names of the six victims. A ponderosa pine, hit by bomb fragments, stands behind the monument. Known today as the Mitchell Monument, the site is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Shrapnel Tree

HOOVER-MINTHORN PEAR

From 1885 to 1889, the Hoover-Minthorn House was the boyhood home of Herbert Hoover, the 31st president of the United States. Dr. Henry Minthorn, Hoover's uncle, invited his young nephew to come west from Iowa and become part of his family.



Hoover-Minthorn Pear

Hoover was eleven years old, and since the death of both of his parents had been living with other relatives.

Pear-butter was made each year at harvest time by the Minthorn ladies. In a letter to a former teacher, Hoover described the scene. *When I arrived in Newberg, Aunt Laura Minthorn and her two daughters, my cousins, were making pear-butter supply for the winter in a washboiler over a fire in the yard. I had never eaten a pear before. I was asked to stir the butter and urged to eat as many pears as I liked. I liked them. But after almost two days of almost exclusive pear diet, I did not eat pears again for years.*

Today the Hoover-Minthorn House is preserved as a museum to Hoover and the period. On the grounds is the winter pear, or winter nelis, planted in 1879 and still producing pears to be feasted upon.

PEG TREE

The community of Lake Oswego was born when Albert Durham claimed land north of Sucker Creek in 1851 and named the town he laid out after his hometown of Oswego, New York. On his Donation Land Claim of 637 acres, Durham built the town's first industry - a sawmill on Sucker Creek - and his homestead on the bluff overlooking the Willamette River. Near his homestead, the early townspeople of Oswego gathered under the Douglas-fir trees to hold town and Grange meetings, and to teach Sunday school classes. A peg was driven into one of the trees for hanging a lantern to light these meetings.

Oswego grew with the development of its iron industry between 1865 and 1894. The iron smelter built at Sucker Creek in 1865 produced the first iron ore manufactured west of the Rocky Mountains. Charcoal for the fire was produced from the native fir trees in the area. All of the huge fir trees that lined the road to the iron smelter were cut down, except for one - the Peg Tree. The Peg Tree lives on today as a reminder of the pioneer era when lanterns were the only illumination available in a small, but promising settlement.



Peg Tree

ARTWORK SPOTLIGHTS HERITAGE TREES



Beautiful pastel artwork created by Kristin Lassen Hunt featuring Oregon Heritage Trees is now available in note cards. Two exclusive sets of note cards are available for sale through the Travel Information Council with the proceeds benefiting the Oregon Heritage Tree Program. The 4x5 cards come in sets of 8 with envelopes with four different trees in each packet. The cards are \$14.95 per set. To order, visit the TIC website at www.oregontic.com or call 1-800-574-9397.



Tree Team is the biannual newsletter of the Oregon Heritage Tree Program to serve the purpose to help recognize and protect our state's heritage trees. For more information call the Oregon Heritage Tree Program at the Travel Information Council 1-800-574-9397 or 503-378-4508

HERITAGE TREE EVENTS

April 21, 2005

11:00 a.m.

Statewide Dedication Ceremony
Dorris Ranch Hazelnut Orchard
South 2nd and Dorris Street
Springfield, Oregon

April 29, 2005

2:00 p.m.

Peg Tree Dedication
141 Leonard Street
Lake Oswego, Oregon

August 10, 2005

Hoover-Minthorn Pear Dedication
Hoover-Minthorn House Museum
115 South River Street
Newberg, Oregon

Thank You for Your Tax-Deductable Donation

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